

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A milk beverage comprising a polyglycerol fatty acid ester having a cloud point of not less than 90°C when measured at a concentration of 1% by weight in a 20% sodium chloride aqueous solution containing said ester.

2. A milk beverage according to claim 1, wherein an ester-constituting polyglycerol of said polyglycerol fatty acid ester has an average degree of polymerization of 4 to 12, and the amount of unreacted polyglycerol remaining in said polyglycerol fatty acid ester is not more than 70 % by weight based on the weight of said polyglycerol fatty acid ester.

3. A milk beverage according to claim 1, wherein a ester-constituting fatty acid of said polyglycerol fatty acid ester is at least one fatty acid selected from the group consisting of saturated and unsaturated fatty acids having 14 to 22 carbon atoms.

4. A milk beverage according to claim 1, wherein the content of said polyglycerol fatty acid ester is 0.01 to 0.1 % by weight based on the weight of said milk beverage.

5. A milk beverage according to claim 1, further comprising a sucrose fatty acid ester.

Sub A3

71

6. A milk beverage according to claim 5, wherein the monoester content of said sucrose fatty acid ester is not less than 50 % by weight, and an ester-constituting fatty acid of said sucrose fatty acid ester contains palmitic acid or stearic acid in an amount of not less than 70 % by weight.

7. A milk beverage according to claim 5, wherein the weight ratio of said polyglycerol fatty acid ester to said sucrose fatty acid ester is 1:1 to 7:3.

8. A milk beverage according to claim 5, wherein the content of sucrose fatty acid ester is 0.03 to 0.1 % by weight based on the weight of said milk beverage.

9. A milk beverage according to claim 1, wherein said milk beverage is milk coffee or milk tea.